

A warm welcome to Naval Base Kitsap!

Military families have a number of districts from which to choose. Unlike some areas of the U.S., districts in Washington State don't necessarily coincide with local city, town, or county boundaries. Bremerton School District (BSD) www.bremertonschools.org covers most of the Bremerton area. South Kitsap School District (SKSD) www.skitsap.wednet.edu covers the Port Orchard area. North Mason School District (NMSD) www.nmsd.wednet.edu covers the Belfair area. Central Kitsap School District (CKSD) www.ckschools.org covers Silverdale area and northern edges of Bremerton. North Kitsap School District (NKSD) www.nkschools.org covers northern edge of Silverdale, Poulsbo, and all the way to the tip of Kitsap County. Bainbridge Island School District (BISD) www.bisd303.org serves all of Bainbridge Island.

If you are interested in the district and building demographics and test scores, go to <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx?year=2014-15&schoolId=1&reportLevel=State&yrs=2014-15>

(On light yellow tool bar, click on the name of the school district that you are interested in on the drop down menu, then click on GO. If you go back to the light yellow toolbar, you can then pull down the individual schools in that district to see what their stats look like. Remember to click GO each time you change the search.)

All the districts have free all-day kindergarten. To start kindergarten in the Fall, a child must turn 5 years old by August 31.

District preschool is only free for children with IEPs that require preschool services. Early Head Start and Head Start are available for free if income requirements are met and may be located at specific elementary schools. Some districts may offer pre-k for a fee for children who serve as typically developing peers in special ed inclusion classes or who attend the lab classroom for high school child development classes. I have some lists of pre-k options and private entities that provide pre-k—most all for a fee.

Bremerton, Central Kitsap, North Kitsap, North Mason, and South Kitsap School Districts have grades k-5, 6-8, and 9-12 schools. Some may have exceptions—generally, alternative or special programs-- that follow other grade configurations.

NBK has multiple base housing sites. Will you be living in Bangor Base housing, The Landings at Jackson Park housing, Bremerton Base Housing, or Keyport Base Housing?

Children living on Bangor can attend either CKSD or NKSD.

*From anywhere on Base you can choose to attend the designated NKSD schools (North Kitsap High School, Poulsbo Middle School, and Pearson Ele).

*The CKSD schools would be Central Kitsap High School (grades 9-12) and, **depending on where you live on Base, either** Cougar Valley Elementary (grades

k-5)/Central Kitsap Middle School (grades 6-8) **OR** Clear Creek Ele (grades k-5) /Ridgetop Middle School (grades 6-8). Let me know your address. I can let you know what your assigned elementary or middle school will be.

Children living on The Landings at Jackson Park may attend **either** designated Bremerton SD schools (Bremerton High School, Mountain View Middle School, Kitsap Lake Ele) schools **OR** designated CKSD schools (Central Kitsap High School, Central Kitsap Middle School, Bud Hawk Elementary School).

Bremerton Base Housing residents would attend Bremerton School District's Naval Avenue Early Learning Center (grades k-3), West Hills STEM Academy (grades k-8), Mt View MS (grades 6-8), and Bremerton High School (grades 9-12).

Keyport Base Housing is served by North Kitsap School District. The designated schools are Pearson Elementary, Poulsbo Middle School, and North Kitsap High School.

Please note that there is **no** transportation from elementary, middle, or high schools to Bangor or Jackson Park Child and Youth Programs-- **except** from those specific schools that serve either Bangor Housing or Jackson Park Housing.

Would your teenager like a youth sponsor? Another teen who knows the Base, schools and community? Youth sponsors are available—just visit <http://kitsap.navylifepnw.com/child-youth/school-liaison-officer/youth-sponsorship>.

If you are looking for childcare, including before- and after-school childcare, do sign up ASAP at www.militarychildcare.com. Also sign up as soon as you know you are pregnant. You can access hourly care for medical appointments or Command events, even if you won't need full-time childcare for going to college or for working.

If you have a child with a disability, all school districts provide programs for students with special needs. If you are thinking about a particular district or school, then I can connect you with the special needs director and with building personnel so that you could ask specific questions that pertain to your child's needs.

For specific questions about EFMP paperwork or community resources for families with special needs, the EFMP Lead Liaison would be an excellent resource. Her contact info is nbk.efmp@navylifepnw.com, phone 360-475-4205.

Interested in jobs (teacher, para-educator, bus driver, etc.) in the local school districts? Fleet and Family Support Center has information. For more info, call 360-396-4115 (Main Desk at FFSC) or visit the Human Resources webpages at the districts.

I thought that folks who are moving in might like to know about the rainfall differences in the area. The northern tip of Kitsap County has about 25 inches per year. The amount

increases as you move south--to more than 70 inches along the southern parts of the Hood Canal. www.kpud.org/geomap/Precip_Maps_Totals.aspx

I look forward to supporting you and your family in the transition to Naval Base Kitsap. Let me know if you have questions!

v/r

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